

UKRAINE - COMPLEX EMERGENCY

FACT SHEET #3, FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2016

JANUARY 21, 2016

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

800,000

IDPs in Ukraine
UN – November 2015

1.1 million

People Displaced to
Neighboring Countries
UNHCR – October 2015

3.1 million

People in Need of
Humanitarian Assistance
UN – November 2015

9,115

Documented Deaths Resulting
from the Conflict
OHCHR – December 2015

20,797

Documented Injuries Resulting
from the Conflict
OHCHR – December 2015

HIGHLIGHTS

- The renewal of the September ceasefire agreement remains in effect as of mid-January, despite small-scale violations
- Access constraints hinder humanitarian response activities in NGCAs, particularly in Donetsk *Oblast*
- UN observes poor conditions and lengthy waiting periods for civilians crossing from NGCAs to government-controlled areas

HUMANITARIAN FUNDING

FOR THE UKRAINE RESPONSE IN FY 2015

USAID/OFDA ¹	\$25,606,600
USAID/FFP ²	\$10,000,000
State/PRM ³	\$35,900,000

\$71,506,600
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN
ASSISTANCE FOR THE UKRAINE
RESPONSE IN FY 2015

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- On December 22, the Government of Ukraine (GoU) and self-proclaimed authorities in non-government controlled areas (NGCAs) of Donetsk and Luhansk *oblasts* agreed to extend the September 1, 2015, ceasefire through the end of 2015. As of January 21, the ceasefire remained in effect, although the UN has reported multiple, small-scale violations by both GoU forces and separatists.
- Access constraints continue to hamper humanitarian operations in NGCAs and the movement of civilians between NGCAs and government-controlled areas (GCAs). Although self-proclaimed authorities in Luhansk NGCAs recently accredited select UN agencies and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) to conduct humanitarian operations, Donetsk self-proclaimed authorities' continued refusal to register UN agencies has precluded most UN operations in Donetsk. At the same time, administrative restrictions in GCAs hinder the flow of humanitarian assistance into NGCAs.
- The UN reported an approximately 28 percent increase in the number of people crossing from NGCAs to GCAs between November and December. A UN interagency assessment team recently observed poor humanitarian conditions among people waiting at checkpoints to cross the contact line, a nearly 20-mile wide demilitarized buffer zone between GCAs and NGCAs in Donetsk and Luhansk. Despite GoU procedural improvements—including establishing an electronic pass registration system—to expedite processing, civilians must wait in long lines, sometimes overnight, with limited access to shelter, heated spaces, and other services. In addition, the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) reports that the recent increase in population movement near the contact line has led to an increase in the number of people killed or injured by unexploded ordnance (UXO).

¹ USAID's Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (USAID/OFDA)

² USAID's Office of Food for Peace (USAID/FFP)

³ U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM)

INSECURITY AND HUMANITARIAN ACCESS

- On December 22, GoU representatives and self-proclaimed authorities in Donetsk and Luhansk *oblasts*, which NGCA authorities sometimes refer to as the Donetsk People's Republic and Luhansk People's Republic, agreed to extend the cessation of hostilities through the end of 2015, coinciding with ongoing peace negotiations in Minsk, Belarus. Continued small-scale clashes along the contact line have jeopardized the September 1 ceasefire, with the UN recently reporting particularly heavy clashes in the vicinity of Donetsk city airport. In addition, the UN reports that forces from both sides have quietly claimed villages within the buffer zone during the ceasefire. As of January 21, however, the ceasefire agreement remained in effect.
- Since the GoU implemented a pass system for civilians crossing the contact line in January 2015, humanitarian organizations have advocated for further streamlining of procedures to reduce civilian hardships. Although the GoU has implemented some improvements to expedite processing—including establishing an electronic system to obtain passes, increasing staffing, and expanding checkpoints—the situation remains a concern to humanitarian organizations, particularly since the number of people crossing the contact line increased by 28 percent to nearly 700,000 people between November and December, according to the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA). A UN interagency team that visited GoU checkpoints on the contact line in Donetsk in late December reported that the majority of people crossing from NGCAs to GCAs were elderly people with limited mobility, single women, and families with children. People seeking to cross into GCAs stand in long lines—sometimes waiting overnight—in cold weather with limited access to services. Most people travel to GCAs to obtain GoU social payments and pensions and to access savings and markets, which are less expensive and better-stocked in GCAs, according to the UN. The GoU has provided some heated areas at all crossings; however, these areas are not available to the majority of people who must wait within the buffer zone between GCAs and NGCAs.
- Access constraints, as well as commercial trade and financial restrictions, continue to limit response efforts in NGCAs, according to humanitarian organizations. Self-proclaimed authorities in NGCAs of Donetsk and Luhansk have imposed a cumbersome registration process on UN agencies and international non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and rejected the applications of most agencies, severely limiting humanitarian activities. On the GoU side of the contact line, administrative restrictions—including the unsystematic application of procedures for moving humanitarian cargo—delay the flow of humanitarian assistance to NGCAs, according to USG sources. In addition, GoU restrictions on commercial traffic into NGCAs have resulted in significantly increased food and commodity prices and an increased reliance on humanitarian assistance, according to the UN. At the same time, a lack of viable financial systems in NGCAs hinders local commodity procurement by response actors.
- Self-proclaimed authorities in Luhansk NGCAs have permitted ICRC and one international NGO (INGO) to provide humanitarian assistance, in addition to limited activities implemented by the UN via UNHCR and OCHA—both of which self-proclaimed authorities in Luhansk accredited in October 2015. Since then, five UNHCR convoys carrying humanitarian assistance sufficient for approximately 20,000 people have arrived Luhansk NGCAs. Self-proclaimed authorities in Donetsk NGCAs have also allowed ICRC and one INGO to provide humanitarian assistance; however, authorities' refusal to register UN agencies has precluded nearly all UN operations.

PROTECTION

- Fighting and UXO resulted in at least eight civilian deaths and nearly 30 injuries in November, according to the Protection Cluster—the coordinating body for humanitarian protection activities, comprising UN agencies, NGOs, and other stakeholders. The cluster reported that the presence of UXO poses a significant security threat to civilians residing near the contact line. UNHCR reports that UXO resulted in additional civilian deaths in December as population movement increased near the contact line and UNHCR recommends that humanitarian agencies provide UXO risk education to affected communities.
- Since November 2015, the USG-supported UN Population Fund (UNFPA) has deployed 21 mobile teams, each comprising two psychologists and one social worker, to provide psychosocial support to populations in five conflict-affected *oblasts* in eastern Ukraine. From November to December, mobile teams assisted more than 1,400 survivors of

gender-based violence (GBV), approximately 84 percent of whom are women. UNFPA reports that as many as 66 percent of GBV cases were not reported prior to November, highlighting substantial underreporting of GBV in the Ukraine conflict. In particular, UNFPA mobile teams provide psychosocial counseling and referrals to relevant service providers to ensure the safety of people who have experienced GBV.

- In December, a children's hotline supported by the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) received more than 2,300 calls from children and nearly 450 calls from caregivers seeking assistance. The hotline provides protection-related information and legal and psychosocial assistance to children, parents, and guardians. Hotline operators refer callers in need of further support to appropriate agencies. Since January 2015, more than 35,000 children have benefitted from the hotline's services. In addition, UNICEF provided psychosocial support in December to nearly 4,300 children through a network of 13 community protection centers in Dnipropetrovsk, Kharkiv, Luhansk, and Zaporizhzhia *oblasts*. Since January 2015, more than 57,000 children have visited UNICEF-supported centers.

FOOD SECURITY AND LIVELIHOODS

- Following the registration of selected UN agencies, ICRC, and an INGO by self-proclaimed authorities in Luhansk NGCAs in October, the UN and relief organizations have scaled up delivery of relief assistance to non-government controlled Luhansk. In November, UN agencies delivered more than 1,700 metric tons (MT) of emergency food assistance, shelter materials, and relief commodities to NGCAs, primarily in Luhansk. Recent humanitarian assistance to Luhansk benefited approximately 69,000 people, according to the UN.
- A food security assessment recently released by USAID/FFP partner the UN World Food Program (WFP) revealed that nearly 30 percent of households in NGCAs do not have financial resources to meet basic needs and that more than 50 percent of households can barely meet food needs. In NGCAs, household spending on food accounts for approximately 80 percent of household expenditures, compared to 52 percent of household expenditures in GCAs, according to WFP. Food prices in NGCAs are significantly higher than national levels, in part as a result of market access restrictions in NGCAs. WFP notes that seasonal financial burdens, including paying for heat, compound financial pressures on households, particularly in NGCAs.

HEALTH AND WASH

- UNICEF reported that damage to water infrastructure and limited availability of hygiene products due to market disruptions have increased water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) needs among conflict-affected people in NGCAs. The UN agency noted that the presence of UXO, as well as a lack of information regarding the location of infrastructure damage, impedes humanitarian organizations' efforts to conduct repairs. UNICEF is considering providing WASH supplies to public health facilities in NGCAs to mitigate shortages. In December, with support from USAID/OFDA, UNICEF supplied 100 MT of liquefied chlorine to the Mariupol Water Treatment Plant in Donetsk GCA, which supplies safe drinking water to more than half a million people living on both sides of the contact line in Donetsk.
- Water shortages continue in NGCAs of Luhansk, including in the Avdiivka, Krasnohorivka Natayliyo, Pervomaisk, Popasna, and Volnavakha areas, where ICRC could not complete major pipe repairs at the Western Filter Station due to the presence of landmines. In response to shortages, UNICEF is providing water trucking services in these areas sufficient to supply 15,000 people, including approximately 2,700 children, with safe drinking water.
- On December 18, the GoU completed the second round of a polio vaccination campaign. The GoU Ministry of Health (MoH) reported that vaccinators reached approximately 75 percent of the target population of more than 2.2 million children between two months and six years of age. The MoH has scheduled a third round of vaccinations, targeting children between two months and 10 years of age, to begin in late January. In support of the polio vaccination campaign, UNICEF has trained more than 3,000 medical workers and health managers throughout Ukraine in counselling and communication on polio vaccination.

- In Luhansk NGCAs, the second round of the polio vaccination campaign concluded on January 4, with a third round scheduled to begin in early February. Campaign authorities report that vaccinators reached more than 96 percent of the target population, according to UNICEF.

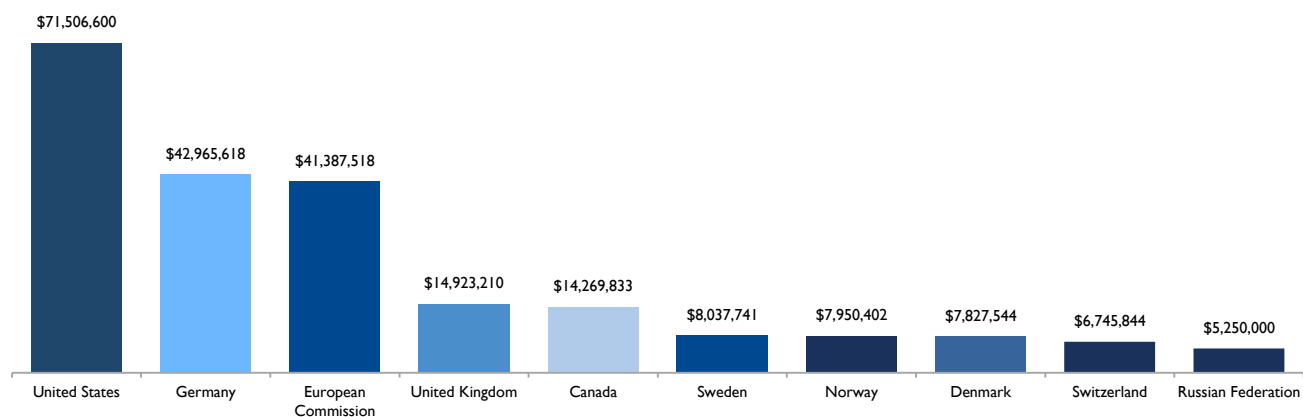
SHELTER, RELIEF COMMODITIES, AND WINTERIZATION SUPPORT

- Conflict-related damage to residential buildings and water-heating infrastructure, displacement, and extremely low temperatures have rendered many communities in NGCAs along the contact line in need of winterization support, including fuel, relief commodities, and shelter supplies, according to the UN. UNHCR reports that it has provided nearly all villages in GCAs along the contact line with some form of winterization support; however, the Shelter Cluster reports that a significant number of villages in NGCAs had not received assistance as of late December, due to access restrictions imposed by self-proclaimed authorities.
- During December, UNHCR continued to implement its winterization plan, distributing relief commodities and heating fuel to affected communities both in GCAs and NGCAs. UNHCR is distributing half its winterization assistance for non-government controlled Donetsk through an INGO. UNHCR is prioritizing assistance to communities situated along the contact line that are affected by fighting, the presence of UXO, and movement restrictions associated with additional checkpoints.
- From December 2–24, UNHCR provided emergency relief supplies and shelter materials to more than 2,000 people in Donetsk GCA's Mariupol city and nearby areas, as well as GCAs of northern Donetsk. Additionally, UNHCR distributed relief commodities and shelter materials to more than 1,000 people in non-government controlled Luhansk.
- USAID/OFDA partners are providing livelihood assistance to conflict-affected people in Donetsk and Luhansk. As of mid-December, partners had distributed cash grants to more than 1,500 people with further distributions forthcoming.

OTHER HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

- On December 18, the Ukrainian Red Cross Society and Qatar Red Crescent Society signed a memorandum to launch a humanitarian support program for internally displaced persons (IDPs) in eastern Ukraine. The joint program will target approximately 8,500 conflict-affected individuals with humanitarian assistance.

2015 TOTAL HUMANITARIAN FUNDING* PER DONOR



*Funding figures are as of January 21, 2015. All international figures are according to OCHA's Financial Tracking Service and based on international commitments during the current calendar year, while USG figures are according to the USG and reflect the most recent USG commitments based on the fiscal year, which began on October 1, 2014.

USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE UKRAINE RESPONSE IN FY 2015¹

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
USAID/OFDA²			
Implementing Partners	Economic Recovery and Market Systems, Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, and WASH	Countrywide	\$23,787,362
OCHA	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Countrywide	\$700,000
UNICEF	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management, Nutrition, and WASH	Countrywide	\$1,001,000
	Administrative and Support Costs		\$118,238
TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING			\$25,606,600
USAID/FFP			
WFP	Locally Procured Food Assistance and Food Vouchers	Donetsk and Luhansk <i>oblasts</i>	\$10,000,000
TOTAL USAID/FFP FUNDING			\$10,000,000
STATE/PRM			
ICRC	Food Assistance, Health, Protection, Shelter and Settlements	Countrywide	\$21,500,000
International Organization for Migration	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Shelter and Settlements	Countrywide	\$3,000,000
UNFPA	Protection	Countrywide	\$1,000,000
UNHCR	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Protection, Shelter and Settlements	Countrywide	\$10,400,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING			\$35,900,000
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE UKRAINE RESPONSE IN FY 2015			\$71,506,600

USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE UKRAINE RESPONSE IN FY 2014³

TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING	\$6,650,836
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING	\$5,675,000
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE UKRAINE RESPONSE IN FY 2014	\$12,325,836
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE UKRAINE RESPONSE IN FY 2014–2015	\$83,832,436

¹ Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds.

² USG funding totals represent actual committed amounts as of September 30, 2015.

³ USG funding totals represent actual committed amounts as of September 30, 2014.

CONTEXT

- Since March 2014, conflict between the GoU military and separatists has escalated in eastern Ukraine, causing large-scale population displacement and widespread damage to infrastructure. The heaviest fighting has occurred in the easternmost *oblasts* bordering Russia, particularly Donetsk and Luhansk; however, the large influx of IDPs has negatively affected neighboring *oblasts*.
- As of November 2015, the UN estimated that the conflict had internally displaced more than 800,000 people. In addition, up to 2.7 million people remained in conflict-affected NGCAs of eastern Ukraine, where the volatile security environment and bureaucratic delays have impeded humanitarian access.
- On November 23, 2015, U.S. Ambassador Geoffrey R. Pyatt re-issued a disaster declaration for Ukraine due to the continued humanitarian needs of IDPs and vulnerable populations affected by conflict between GoU forces and pro-opposition forces in eastern Ukraine.

PUBLIC DONATION INFORMATION

- The most effective way people can assist relief efforts is by making cash contributions to humanitarian organizations that are conducting relief operations. A list of humanitarian organizations that are accepting cash donations for disaster responses around the world can be found at www.interaction.org.
- USAID encourages cash donations because they allow aid professionals to procure the exact items needed (often in the affected region); reduce the burden on scarce resources (such as transportation routes, staff time, and warehouse space); can be transferred very quickly and without transportation costs; support the economy of the disaster-stricken region; and ensure culturally, dietary, and environmentally appropriate assistance.
- More information can be found at:
 - USAID Center for International Disaster Information: www.cidi.org or +1.202.821.1999.
 - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at www.reliefweb.int.

USAID/OFDA bulletins appear on the USAID website at
<http://www.usaid.gov/what-we-do/working-crises-and-conflict/responding-times-crisis/where-we-work>